MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 NOVEMBER 1981

Saudi Arabia

At the end of British Foreign Secretary Lord Peter Carrington's visit to Saudi Arabia, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal told a press conference, according to Riyadh radio, that their talks were useful and constructive, adding that an objective of Carrington's visit had been to determine how far the Venice declaration accords with Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan. Faysal said the significance of Article 7 of Fahd's proposals is the recognition of a Palestinian state and the initiation of negotiations between that state and Israel, noting that "this would not take place unless each side recognized the other." Regarding European participation in the multinational peacekeeping force for the Sinai, the Saudi foreign minister said he hoped the European peace initiative for the Middle East would remain independent of Camp David, specifying that European involvement in the Sinai force would be seen in Arab quarters as involvement in the Camp David process. Al-Faysal also said he is optimistic that Arab leaders will approve the Saudi plan at their forthcoming summit conference in Fes and noted that the Arab Gulf states had approved the eight-point plan at their last meeting in At-Ta'if. He said the Kingdom hopes for Soviet support for the plan and to "see more of the positive position of the American side" toward it. Concerning relations with Egypt, Al-Faysal denied there had been contacts between the Kingdom and Egypt.

SPA reported that Lord Carrington told journalists before his departure that the Saudi plan does not contradict the Venice declaration, describing Fahd's eight principles as positive and a sound foundation for further steps. He expressed the hope that the Arab summit conference in Fes will endorse the plan.

PLO, Israel on Sinai Force

Note to Carrington -- A report in the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT said that on 4 November Nabil ar-Ramlawi, PLO representative in the United Kingdom, presented a note at the Foreign Office calling on Lord Carrington to seriously consider the possible consequences of British participation in the Sinai peacekeeping force and UK support for the Camp David accords. Ar-Ramlawi said these actions might have a negative effect on British-Arab relations in the future.

Shamir, Begin Statements -- IDF radio broadcast Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's remarks to the Knesset during a 4 November debate on the Sinai force in which he said Israel has informed all countries interested in joining the force that any declaration or statement from them that contradicts the terms of the tripartite agreement on the establishment of the force "will cancel the participation of those proclaimants in the force." Participation in the multinational force must be based solely on the Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. agreement signed within the Camp David framework, Shamir continued, and Israel will accept nothing "likely to contradict this or deviate from those documents."

Subsequently, Jerusalem radio reported Prime Minister Menahem Begin as saying in Elat that Israel will not consent to having a British unit join the force if Lord Carrington "continues to dispute the Camp David accords."

Israel

IDF radio reported Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon as stating that Israel has chosen the path of peace, even though other options are open to it and the United States has begun "to eye" plans other than the one agreed to at Camp David. Sharon described the Israeli people as believing in "constructiveness and creativity" and said that Israel's response to Fahd's peace plan is the establishment of eight new Israeli settlements.

Syria

Damascus radio reported a TISHRIN commentary that attacked Israeli Prime Minister Begin's recent remarks before the Knesset on the Syrian missiles in Lebanon. TISHRIN affirmed that Syria would not be affected by Begin's new threats any more than it was by his previous ones. The commentary went on to argue that the missiles are defensive and that Syria will not allow Israel or any other party to determine the kind or quantity of weapons given its forces.

Jordan

Husayn on Washington Talks -- Amman radio reported that at a press conference held in Washington on 4 November King Husayn reiterated that during his talks with U.S. leaders he observed a "readiness to listen, accept logic and show concern" for Middle East affairs. The king characterized American leadership as "capable of and perhaps desirous of understanding truths" and of adopting what is hoped will be positive stands. Husayn added that he believes President Reagan will be fair, noting that there is much hope that U.S. policy will change.

Purchase of Soviet Missiles -- The Jerusalem radio Arabic service cited media reports from Washington that during his visit to Washington King Husayn informed Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger of Jordan's intention to purchase SAM-6's from the Soviet Union. Iraq is to finance the deal.

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Husayn on Cease-Fire -- In a speech to the Arab Women's Federation conference carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn expressed his country's readiness for peace, should Iran be equally prepared, even if "only during the holy month" of Muharram. A temporary halt to fighting, he said, might give Iranians a chance to contemplate a "lasting peace" between Iranians and Arabs and Iraqis.

Downing of Iraqi Plane -- According to Tehran radio, one of three Iraqi planes attacking in the southern part of the war zone was struck by Iranian air defense unit fire and forced to crash on the Iraqi side of the Shatt al-'Arab.

Iran

Tehran radio noted that in the past few days 98 Kurdish rebels have repentantly surrendered to revolution guards in Urumiyeh, Kamyaran and Rijab.

Afghanistan

According to Kabul radio, a "mercenary" in CIA employ at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul revealed the nature of the services he performed for the U.S. Government in an Afghan television interview with domestic and foreign journalists. He described how the "espionage system" operates at the embassy and his activities within the DRA Armed Forces on behalf of the Americans.

Egypt

Resignation of Mubarak Aide -- MENA reported that the resignation of presidential assistant Sayyid Mar'i was accepted by President Husni Mubarak on 31 October at Al-'Urubah Palace.

Update on Plotters -- AFP cited "official figures" on the number of persons arrested in connection with the assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat as now totaling 718. According to MENA, a 6 November AL-AHRAM article on the investigations into the assassination and the plot to overthrow the government revealed that five groups were involved in "the terrorist organization" plan to wrest power from the government.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'MERCENARY' EXPOSES U.S. EMBASSY ACTIVITIES

LD051852 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] According to a report, a mercenary who sold out to American imperialism exposed the shameless and foul actions of the CIA espionage organization against the Afghan revolution in a television interview today.

He exposed his employment at the service of the U.S. Embassy by an employee of that embassy's information channel [channel-e itlaa'tee]. Speaking to home and foreign journalists, he stated the manner in which the espionage system functions in the American Embassy in Kabul. He has revealed all the services he rendered in the interests of the United States against the Sawr Revolution and the Government of Afghanistan. He revealed his (?activities) inside the DRA Armed Forces under the instruction of the espionage branch of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul.

The whole proceedings at this press conference will be brought to the information of the compatriots on radio and television in the near future.

AFGHAN, INDIAN TRADE UNIONS ISSUE COMMUNIQUE

LD060638 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Kabul, 5 Nov (BAKHTAR) -- Indian and Afghan trade union leaders have expressed their deep concern on the ever-increasing concentration of U.S. Armed Forces, including the Rapid Deployment Forces, in the Indian Ocean.

In a joint communique signed by the secretary general of All-India Trade Union Congress [AITUC], Indrajit Gupta, and the president of the Central Council of Trade Unions of Afghanistan [CCTUA], Sattar Pordali, on the conclusion of the visit of a high ranking delegation of AITUC to Afghanistan, they strongly condemned this dangerous action of the U.S. which was tantamount to utter disregard of the UN declaration for converting Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

The AITUC delegation, says the communique, expressed its solidarity with the just struggle of the people of Afghanistan against the intervention of U.S. imperialism, Chinese chauvinism and regional reaction and demanded an end to the aggression against Afghanistan from the territory of Pakistan.

The CCTUA condemned the intervention and provocation of the militarist regime of Pakistan and Chinese chauvinists in the internal affairs of India and called it a great danger to the independence of that country.

Both sides stressed the need for joint struggle, solidarity, and unity of action of the working people of India, Afghanistan, Pakistan and the world as an [words indistinct] of world peace and general disarmament.

The Indian and Afghan trade union leaders came out in support of a just and permanent solution of the Middle East problem by finding means for political solution, unconditional evacuation of the Israeli soldiers from the occupied Arab lands and creation of a state of Palestine under the leadership of Palestine Liberation Organization.

The communique noted the complete support of the sides to the new peace initiatives of Leonid Brezhnev for peace, disarmament and lessening of the tensions in the world.

KABUL TRADE UNION COUNCIL HOLDS PLENUM

LD060754 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0432 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Kabul, 5 Nov (BAKHTAR) -- The fourth plenum of the Central Council of Trade Unions of Kabul was held here today.

The delegates discussed various issues, including living standards of the workers, raising of the level of production and ensuring of security at the production enterprises and factories in Kabul city.

The fundamental statement of the plenum noted that this session was being held in conditions when the trade unions in the country have become a mighty and growing force and a reliable ally of the PDPA.

BAKHTAR ON SAUDI ROLE IN MIDEAST SETTLEMENT

LD060654 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 6 Nov 81

[By BAKHTAR political observer]

[Text] Kabul, 5 Nov (BAKHTAR) -- Less than a month after Egyptian President as-Sadat's assassination, the American cowboy, it seems, is going to change an overridden pair of Camp David bullion [as received] horses for a fresh Arabian pacer or, to be more precise, to harness it into the Camp David chariot, skidding helplessly in the filth of broken promises, misleading statement and shameful concessions, so characteristic of this anti-Arab deal.

It would not be just a guess to say that the involvement of Saudi Arabia in the American-sponsored so-called peaceful process in the Middle East is the golden dream of the White House strategists. Whether they achieve this feat remains to be seen, because Riyadh officially still rejects the Camp David accords. At the same time, the obvious senselessness of continuing bilateral talks on the notorious "administrative autonomy" for Palestinians, taking into consideration the obstinate Israeli position, made even West Europe to pronounce them dead. The impasse is forcing the American policy-makers to undertake urgent and fresh steps to revitalize under new guise the substance of Camp David. And the Saudi connection seems to be the only chance.

From this jangle it is instructive to watch how the American cowboy's lasso is closing in on the Arabian pacer's neck. As we already noted in one of the previous commentaries, the AWACS deal is visualized in Washington as an obligation upon Riyadh to join the "search for peace" together with Israel and Egypt. At the same time the Pentagon announced that the American military aid to the Saudis whose volume is valued at $38 billion /the cost of the AWACS deal $8.5 billion is not included in this figure/ [slant-lines as received] would help American defence of the Gulf region. More than that, one can conclude from the reports of the American mass media that Saudi Arabia is now under the strongest American pressure to give consent to establishment of the U.S. military bases on its territory. The Washington POST article asserted recently that Saudi ruling family has agreed to the use of the country's military facilities by the "Rapid Deployment Forces" of the U.S. army.

On the economic front too the Saudis are under constant American pressure. From the point of view of oil prices Washington has demanded of Saudi Arabia to do everything possible and even impossible to lower them, and the kingdom has obediently given in. But it is not all. For a long time the Saudis were preoccupied with an idea emanating from Washington that the sealanes of oil deliveries in the Gulf are under constant threat of the "Soviet attack". Though completely hypothetical, this idea, cooked up in the Pentagon, struck the imagination of the Saudi rulers. So an impressive project of building a pipe-line from the northern oil-fields to the Red Sea port of Anbo was born. The construction has been just completed. The oil will be delivered from Anbo by tankers to the Sumed pipe-line and pumped through the Egyptian territory to the terminals on the Mediterranean coast. Thus, one third of the Saudi oil production will remain at the mercy of Egypt and its American patrons, giving Washington a highly political and military leverage with the oil's owners.

Saudi Arabia's one-sided dependence on the United States put this Arab and Muslim country in a really tight situation politically and militarily. What causes concern is whether the Kingdom is able to withstand the concentrated American blackmail or not.

It is especially important because the Middle East has entered a very grave period of tension, a decisive phase of cardinal developments of its 30-year-old conflict. The unity of Arabs at this stage must be further consolidated as they confront the common enemy -- the alliance of imperialism, Zionism and local reaction. In this confrontation Saudi Arabia will be an important factor to one of the sides. But which one?

ATTACKS ON SOVIET-BUILT COMPLEX CONDEMNED

LD051852 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] The dark agents of reaction and imperialism, those malicious intimidators and saboteurs who through their traitorous antihuman and anti-Islamic actions created a disturbance and anxiety among our noble and faithful people and carried out subversive actions on 3 November at Block 128 in the third Macroyan complex [Soviet-built apartment buildings housing government employees and Soviet technicians in Kabul] were condemned in a meeting held today in front of the buildings by a large number of Kabul residents.

At the gathering, the Kabul party committee official in charge of publicity and propagation and two residents of the third Macroyan complex condemned the criminal actions of the servants of imperialism. The meeting ended with a resolution which says in part:

On 3 November, during the middle of the night when old men, youths, children and women were sound asleep, traitor elements, those merciless brutes, attacked private homes in Block 128 and disrupted the peace of noble residents. This in iteslf is a clear indication of their criminal and cruel actions.

We, the residents of the third Macroyan complex, vigorously condemn the traitorous and plundering actions of the counterrevolutionary forces which are directed against the lives and property of the people. We will defend the revolution and the revolutionary government against every aggressive action of the imperialists and their aggressive servants with patriotic courage. We will fight together with our revolutionary government for the final annihilation of the traitors to our homeland. We will take part in the progress and development of our homeland with self-sacrifice.

Let these counterrevolutionaries, these defeated, weak and [word indistinct] recoil like snakes and become insane because of the intensity of their envy and hatred! But the Afghan people are striving on the path of revolution with complete hardship [as heard].

Let there be peace and tranquillity in our homeland.

Let our youths and our elders live purely and sincerely in our fatherland and take this beloved homeland to the lofty peaks of progress!

Death to U.S. imperialism!

Death to the homeless sellers of our country who have put themselves at the service of the most lunatic and corrupt forces of world reaction!

Be proud and prosperous, our revolutionary homeland, Afghanistan!

VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT ENDS VISIT 5 NOV

BK051307 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] A ceremonial sendoff was given to Venezuelan President Dr Luis Campins when he left New Delhi for Paris today at the end of a 3-day state visit. He was seen off by President Sanjiva Reddy and Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and some of her cabinet colleagues.

Communique Issued

BK051620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] India and Venezuela have expressed concern at the deterioration in the international situation and voiced their opposition to any form of interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

In a joint communique issued in New Delhi at the end of the visit of Venezuelan President Dr Luis Herrera Campins, the two countries reaffirmed that disputes between nations should be resolved through peaceful and direct negotiations without external interference.

The communique noted that there had been continuing deterioration in the world economic situation due to unjust relations between the developed and the developing countries. While they recognize the need to strengthen unity among developing nations, they said this does not absolve the developed countries of their responsibilities within the framework of the North-South dialogue. The success of global negotiations would depend on the political will of the participating countries, particularly the developed nations.

In the bilateral field, the communique says there are immense possibilities for expansion of economic and commercial relations between the two countries. They agreed to study the possibilities of setting up joint ventures.

GANDHI DEPARTS FOR VISIT TO SOFIA, ROME, PARIS

BK060655 Delhi Deomstic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] The prime minister left New Delhi a short while ago on a 10-day tour of Bulgaria, Italy and France. She was seen off at the airport by her Cabinet colleagues, senior officials, Congress-I leaders and members of the diplomatic corps.

Mrs Gandhi will have discussions with leaders of the three countries on the international situation, economic problems and bilateral relations. The talks will also cover the possibilities of expanding and diversifying commercial and economic relations with these countries. Several agreements and protocols are likely to be signed during the prime minister's visit.

In Sofia and Rome, Mrs Gandhi is scheduled to meet Indian communities. She will address a conference of heads of Indian missions in Europe to be held in Paris. In Paris, the prime minister will have discussions with President Mitterrand and Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy. She is likely to discuss with President Mitterrand the followup action to be taken on the Cancun summit.

In Rome, whe will have talks with the Italian prime minister and deliver the (McDougal) memorial lectures at the food and agriculture organization. Mrs Gandhi will call on the pope at the Vatican soon after her arrival on Monday in Rome.

GENERAL URGES CAUTION ON FRENCH MIRAGE DEAL

BK040931 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 30 Oct 81 p 8

[Retired Major General D.K. Palit article: "Mirage Deal Needs Careful Thought"]

[Text] Given today's murky milieu, it could have been easily forecast that the moment the government took a timely decision about the Mirage project, there would be an automatic comeback from the opposition implying some form of hanky-panky -- depending upon which way the government had decided.

This is precisely what has happened. No sooner was it announced that our mission in Paris had made up its mind -- in this case, to go ahead with the Mirage-2000 deal -- than "fundamental questions about the integrity of the government" were raised. Overstatements about the foreign exchange costs and other factors have been made to confuse the issue rather than clarify it.

There is no denying the concern that the country feels about the acquisition of three squadrons of F-16 aircraft by Pakistan, now almost a certainty. It does not need a Pakistani airman to tell us that this is a super-super fighter, a sure killer of any adversary within a two-mile radius in the air. Its highly sophisticated avionics and missiles system ensure it that capability. And in the fighter-bomber role, carrying either conventional or nuclear warheads, it will be able to reach vital targets in India outside the range of the PAF hitherto. What is more, the F-16 is in production now and already deployed in a number of Western air forces: a proven champ.

At present we have no answer to this threat. Our gradually building squadrons of Jaguars and MiG-23's, adequate as they are for the roles for which they were designed, will not match the F-16's in plane-to-plane combat; hence, the government's concerns. The answer, however, will not come as easily as that. The Mirages are an attractive proposition, but there are factors against which a hasty final decision must be weighed if we are to avoid repenting it at leisure.

To start with, we must be clear in our minds about the methods by which the penetration potential of the F-16's (which is the crux of the threat) can be countered. The intercept method is one -- and it is mainly for this that the Mirage is being acquired, our Jag's and MiG's being outclassed by the F-16's. Yet, are we sure that interception is a feasible option? Likely target areas in India stretch over a wide area -- from the Himalayan foothills (energy installations) to industrial and other targets in central India. The choice of strike routes would be too wide for us to ensure detection without a more sophisticated and far greater deployment of surveillance systems than we possess. And even if that were available, are we certain that the Mirage-2000, as yet untried by any air force including that of the home country, France, would be an effective counter to America's proven No 1 fighter-bomber?

Are we even sure that the Mirages will get to India in time? It is only the prototype that has been developed as yet. Even if this is approved for production now, it will be 1985-86 before we can expect to have our first squadrons operational -- well behind Pakistan's target dates, should things move as smoothly as the Reagan-Zia plans indicate.

There are, moreover, alternative counters: to strike at the F-16 bases themselves and thus obviate the threat before it materialises; or by exerting deterrence -- by threatening retaliation bombing of Pakistani targets, the loss of which are both direct and indirect counters, one pre-emptive, the other retaliatory -- and both roles are precisely for which we got the Jaguar, with its low-level strike capability.

All things being equal, we could still have planned to go in for the Mirage-2000 as a backup safeguard to the deterrence or pre-emption counterstrategy. But all things are <u>not</u> equal -- not by a long chalk.

A major inequality centres on the cost factor in relation to our past procurement procedures and present economic distress.

The next few years -- taking us into the late 1980's -- are going to be a period of acute shortage of foreign exchange reserves. Until such time as we hope to become at least 60-70 percent self-sufficient in oil, the only way we can tide over our adverse balance-of-payments situation is by banking on the $5.6 billion I.M.F. loan, about which so much controversy has already been generated. How would the Americans react to our urgent pleadings for this loan if we were to hand over a large chunk of it to the French for the purchase of arms? Even if we plan to make subsequent aircraft indigenously, the purchase of the first 40 would cost us anything between 2 and 3 billion dollars. Would this not affect the processing of the I.M.F. loan in the coming years?

Nor would the Americans be the only ones to raise objections. What would be the reaction of the Russians, from whom we have been able to obtain such easy repayment terms in the recent largest-ever package arms deal?

Would the future of our comfortable Russian connection not be affected if we now enter into an agreement on much harder terms with the French? It is true that the next generation of the Russian MiG is still under development and unlikely to be operational till the middle 1980's. The Mirage will be available earlier, true, but the time-frame is neither 100 percent assured nor, strictly speaking, strategically and technologically foolproof.

The Mirage-2000 will undoubtedly fill a strategic gap in our air defence system in the late 1980's, but there are major disadvantages to this project. Much thought will have to be given to it before a decision is taken. First, we have to be sure that the Mirage-2000 will be an interceptor match for the F-16; and, second, that there is no other way of safeguarding our vital targets from the F-16 penetration threat than by their interception by the Mirages.

REDDY FAVORS GREATER AUTONOMY FOR STATES

BK311617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] President Sanjiva Reddy has cautioned against neglecting the demand of the states for greater autonomy. He was delivering the Sardar Patel memorial lecture on integration of India in New Delhi today.

Mr Reddy said the autonomy problem is one that ought to be studied in depth in light of the country's past experiences. He said it is the path of statesmanship to recognize the desire of the states for autonomy to the extent possible. Otherwise, a stage might come when the demand might become not merely vocal but bitter, threatening the country's integrity.

Mr Reddy said the states feel that the responsibility passed on them by the Constitution for social services and agriculture development is not matched by corresponding allocation of financial resources. The vastness and diversity of the country make it almost impossible for a central authority to deal with the multifarious problems in different parts of the country promptly and efficiently. The president said that the political and administrative authorities at the state level are better informed and would react and respond more readily to a situation than a remote, central authority.

Mr Reddy said national integration should not be equated with political unity and absence of outward symptoms of differences. The intellectual and cultural integration is just as important as political integration. The president expressed pain at the divisive forces and tendencies that the nation has witnessed in recent times. The best tribute that the nation can pay to Sardar Patel is to resolve that these divisive forces shall be put down firmly, the president added.

NO-WAR PACT OFFER FORMALLY CONVEYED TO INDIA

BK051111 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman has clarified Pakistan's proposal to enter into immediate (?consultations) with India for the purpose of exchanging mutual guarantees of nonaggression and nonuse of force in the spirit of the Simla Agreement. The spokesman, in a statement in Islamabad today, said that the proposal was formally conveyed to Indian Ambassador in Pakistan Natwar Singh by the secretary general of foreign affiars, S. Shahnawaz, on 14 September last.

The spokesman said the press release on the subject was issued thereafter which appeared in the Pakistani papers on the following day. Subsequently, Pakistan's ambassador in New Delhi had also called on the Indian External Affairs Ministry and conveyed the same proposal. The spokesman made this statement when his attention was drawn to an All-India Radio report that the consultative committee of the parliamentarians attached to the Indian External Affairs Ministry had been officially told that India had not received any formal offer of no-war pact from Pakistan.

Press statements in India have also (?complained of the theme) that Pakistan did not (?place) any formal proposal on the subject. The spokesman said that since 1949 India had continually expressed interest (?concerning) a nonaggression pact with Pakistan. The spokesman recalled that as recently as 11 May this year the Indian prime minister had reiterated India's interest when she told correspondents at Lucknow Airport that we stick to our policy of no-war. It is for Pakistan to act upon any agreement.

MALAYSIAN ARMED FORCES CHIEF ARRIVES FOR TALKS

BK031603 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Chief of the Malaysian Armed Forces Gen Tan Sri Datuk Zain Hashim arrived in Rawalpindi today on 1-week official visit to Pakistan. Vice Chief of the Army Staff Gen Sawar Khan and other senior officials received him at the airport. The Malaysian Armed Forces chief, after his arrival in Rawalpindi, called on the vice chief of the army staff at the general headquarters and exchanged views on matters of mutual interest.

Calls on Haq

BK050020 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Chief of the Malaysian Army Gen Tan Sri Datuk Zain Hashim called on President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening. He discussed with the president matters of mutual interest. Vice Chief of the Army Staff Gen Sawar Khan and the Malaysian ambassador were also present.

Earlier, the chief of the Malaysian Army called on the secretary general, defense. He also visited the national defense college where he was briefed about its functioning. Madame Hashim visited Peshawar and saw the historic Khyber Pass.

BRIEFS

PIG IRON TO INDIA -- The Pakistan steel mills has finalized a deal with a private party of India for the export of 10,000 tons of pig iron. The chairman of the steel mills told newsmen in Karachi today that this was the first deal for the export of pig iron produced at the mills and the shipment would be made by the end of this month. He said the steel mills had also participated in the tender for the supply of 100,000 tons of pig iron to India. Pakistan was the lowest bidder. He said the samples of Pakistani coke and pig iron had also been sent to Bangladesh, and Burma has also shown interest in it. Besides, about 7,000 to 8,000 tons of pig iron had also been sold to local parties. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Oct 81 BK]

LAVASANI OUTLINES SOLUTION TO AFGHAN PROBLEM

LD061030 Tehran PARS in English 0916 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Tehran, 6 Nov (PARS) -- The political director general of Afro-Asian Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, speaking to PARS on Thursday about the proposed plan by Iran on the issue of Afghanistan, said that the plan, in addition to calling for the unconditional withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghan territory, and the formation of Islamic peace-keeping forces, enjoyed the experiences of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Referring to the framework of the Iranian proposed plan, the details of which would be announced in the near future, Lavasani said: "In the same way that we consider the unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Iranian territory as our indisputable right, and as the existence of the usurper Zionists in the Palestinian land is unacceptable, our firm stand vis-a-vis the presence of the Soviet forces in Afghanistan is also clear and decisive. We ask for the unconditional withdrawal of these forces from Afghan territory prior to anything else."

The Iranian official then said that with regard to the fact that people of Afghanistan are Muslim and also for the attention that Muslims of the world paid to this issue, the plan proposed the formation of Islamic peace-keeping forces.

Whether the plan differed from those already in the same connection, Lavasani said that the Iranian plan was a new proposal and was in no way similar to the previous ones. He added that this plan and the proposal for the formation of an anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist united Islamic front, was a manifestation of the outstanding political activities of the Iranian Foreign Ministry during recent months.

Commenting on the reports of foreign news agencies to the effect that the proposed plan by Iran may not be accepted by Pakistan or the Soviet Union, Lavasani said that such interpretations were the signs of creating an atmosphere by these news agencies against a plan whose details had not been disclosed yet.

He emphasised that with his understanding from his meetings with Pakistani officials, he could say that the plan, to this same extent, had been welcomed. Of course, he added, some of the points of the plan could be amended and that Iran did not insist that the plan should be accepted by hundred per cent.

Referring to the executive guarantee of the plan and the withdrawal of the occupying forces from Afghanistan, Lavasani said that according to direct or indirect reports quoting the Soviet officials, their excuse or anxiety is that lest they would be replaced by the U.S. or U.S.-supported forces after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces and, thus, consider it as an excuse for their reinstatement. [sentence as received] While, he added, with the implementation of the plan after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces, there would remain no room for the infiltration of the U.S. or its elements in Afghanistan and, therefore, the plan could be an answer to such excuses.

DELEGATION REPORTEDLY HOLDS TALKS IN UAE

PM051119 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 4 Nov 81 p 1

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT report: "Iranian Delegation Pays Secret Visit to Emirates and Hands Shaykh Zayid a Message From Khomeyni"]

[Text] Tehran -- A high-level delegation from the Iranian Foreign Ministry yesterday concluded a visit to the UAE and returned to Tehran after giving UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan a message from Imam Khomeyni. The contents of the message have not been disclosed.

During its visit, which was shrouded in secrecy, the Iranian delegation met with UAE Higher Council member and Ash-Shariqah Governor Shaykh Sultan Muhammad al-Qasimi, Dubai heir apparent and Deputy Prime Minister Shaktum ibn Rashid and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah. The subjects discussed were not disclosed.

Observers here say that it was because of the specially sensitive nature of the relations between the UAE and Iran and the general situation in the area as a result of the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war that this visit was shrouded in secrecy and no announcement was made on the subjects discussed between the two sides.

However, informed sources have stated that the discussions dealt with bilateral relations between the two countries. The sources said that the UAE delegation led by the minister of state for foreign affairs emphasized that his country adheres to Arab legitmacy and sovereignty over the three islands which Iran occupied during the shah's tenure. The UAE emphasized that the achievement of this would bring about a relaxation in the relations among the area's states, contribute to strengthening cooperation between them and ease the acuteness of the international conflict over the area. The same sources said that the Iranian delegation stated that Iran's war with Iraq would continue to the end.

The sources added that economic relations between the two countries occupied an important place in the discussions, particularly the reexport of food commodities and light equipment to Iran.

The sources said that the discussions involved officials of the two countries and that the Iranian Foreign Ministry delegation included Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, director general of the Political Department in the Foreign Ministry; 'Ali Naqi Soltan, head of the Economic Department; and Ibrahim Rahim Badr, head of the special department in the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

GUARDS REPORT SUCCESSES IN MAHABAD, PIRANSHAHR

LD051744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] [passage indistinct] According to a [word indistinct] report, some armed rebels were captured yesterday in Mahabad by revolution guards. The same report adds: The Islamic combatants also succeeded in discovering a plot hatched by illegal armed elements aimed at invading Mahabad. Having discovered the plot, the Islamic combatants opened heavy-artillery fire on the area outside the town where the counterrevolutionaries had deployed their forces. This report says that with the establishment of observation posts in Mahabad the situation in the town is reported to have been calm in the last 72 hours.

As of [words indistinct] last night until 0130-0200 today, several bases of the Islamic combatants in Piranshahr came under attack from light and heavy fire of illegal armed elements. However, by returning the fire, our forces forced the counterrevolutionaries to flee, inflicting some casualties. The exact figures have not yet been announced. In these dastardly attacks our forces suffered no casualties.

'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' SURRENDER TO GUARDS

LD051846 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has announced:

In the past few days 23 members of the defunct Kurdish Democratic Party have surrendered to Revolution Guards Corps centers in Urumiyeh and Kamyaran, expressing their repentence and handing in their arms and ammunition.

Also, 75 counterrevolutionary agents have surrendered to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Rijab and have repented their past actions.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 689

LD052230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Communique 689 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The situation on the battlefronts and the results of the operations carried out by the strong and faithful combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran over the past 24 hours are brought to the attention of the beloved compatriots as follows:

Exchanges of fire continued in the operational areas in the west of the country, specifically on the Meymak, Gilan-e Gharb, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Sumar fronts. Artillery fire of the Islamic Republic of Iran destroyed a gun, a mortar, a 106-mm rifle, five ammunition dumps and several foxholes and slit trenches and killed or wounded a considerable number of Ba'thist military men.

In the Dasht-e 'Abbas and Musiyan areas, one command jeep and three slit trenches of the enemy were destroyed and a number of the Ba'thists were killed or wounded.

Mortar barrages launched by the heroes of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Kan-e Sakht and Ilam areas resulted in the destruction of two foxholes, an observation post and part of a supply route of the enemy.

In the western Dezful area, our combative heroes, opening artillery and mortar fire, destroyed three enemy observation posts and killed or wounded more than 15 Iraqi soldiers.

Yesterday the city of Abadan was subjected to enemy heavy-weapon fire and air raids, as a result of which one hospital and a number of residential houses were damaged.

The brave combatants of the police on the Abadan front opened fire on enemy positions, destroying an ammunition dump and killing Saddamists.

At 1730 yesterday three intruding Iraqi aircraft violated the airspace of the southern part of our country. They were met by effective fire from our air defense units based on the Khuninshahr front. One of the enemy aircraft was shot down. The plane crashed on the other side of the Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab].

On 3 November this year eight Iraqi Muslim soldiers in the west of the country surrendered to a garrison and returned to the bosom of Islam.

NVOI ON ANTI-SOVIET PROPAGANDA IN IRANIAN PRESS

TA051831 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Unattributed commentary: "Any Attempt To Save the Great Satan Is Doomed to Failure"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The line was to completely negate America; they raised the name of the Soviet Union to negate America; the line was to negate the issue of "Death to America!" The imam of the nation is right. The followers of this line today, too, are striving to save this germ of corruption from the blows of the free and independence-seeking Iranian people, or at least to lessen the scope of attack on world-devouring America and its agents.

If in our revolutionary Iran, at the outset of the revolution, this inauspicious role was assume by AYANDEGAN, PEYGHAN-E EMRUZ, BAMDAD and other newspapers, after a while ENQELAB-E ESLAMI of the spy Bani-Sadr, MIZAN, organ of the railroading liberals, and the newspapers of the Maoist groupings assumed the continuation of this mission, and it must be said that they carried out their mission in a worthy manner indeed.

During only 2 months, MIZAN, organ of the compromising liberals, published 32 articles, and ENQELAB-E ESLAMI 19 articles, negating the danger of imperialism, headed by world-devouring America. At the same time during this same two months MIZAN published 19 articles and ENQELAB-E ESLAMI 16 articles against socialist countries. These newspapers attempted with the utmost power to save America from blows. The railroading liberals' MIZAN even exonerated America from participating in the crime of 4 September.

During this period, such spies and agents as Amir Entezam, Dr Yazdi, Qotbzadeh, Bani-Sadr, Nazih, Moqqadam, Maraghe'i, Abofazl Qasemi and others resorted to various ploys, tricks, rumormongering and faking of facts to save the great Satan and negate the issue of "Death to America" and dealt numerous blows to the revolution and its gains. The revolutionary authorities, by expelling the identified leaders and agents of the compromising liberals and the American Maoists from sensitive government centers, delivered hard blows at these supporters of the great Satan who desire its return to free and revolutionary Iran. It was so effective that for months after the expulsion of the spy and traitor Bani-Sadr and his identified liberal and Maoist gang from Islamic authority, these foes of the revolution could not do anything to negate the great Satan.

Now, it is not clear what has happened. Once again some individuals have entered the arena, and according to the imam, by raising the name of the Soviet Union, are trying to negate America. These individuals have fanned anti-Soviet propaganda to such an extent that according to one of our prominent religious figures it seems as though they are striving to compensate for the several months in which they could not do anything to save the great Satan.

At one of our homeland's religious and political gatherings this issue of the start of intensification of anti-Soviet propaganda was raised. One of the famous political and religious figures faithful to the imam's line said: The current wave of anti-Soviet propaganda, willingly or unwillingly, brings to memory the events of 1959 and 1960. In those days the mouthpieces of the accursed shah and his American masters initiated large-scale propaganda against our next-door neighbor, the Soviet Union, until finally amid this hostile propaganda they were able to impose on the noble Iranian nation the conclusion of treacherous and independence-destroying agreements with aggressive and world-devouring America. In those days what nonsense did they not talk about our northern neighbor, the Soviet Union, and how much of the noble Iranian nation's time and money did they not waste on this path?

Continuing his remarks, this political and religious figure said the following: The repetition of the events of 1959 and 1960 in the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at that, seems strange indeed. He said: We believe that the initiation and continuation of this hostile anti-Soviet propaganda is not on the order of officials and government figures of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and logically it cannot be on their order either. Rather, it is some irresponsible individuals, who by taking advantage of the freedoms stipulated in the Constitution and under the mask of pseudo-Islam are striving to save the great Satan, by raising the name of the Soviet Union, as Imam Khomeyni has said. This large-scale anti-Soviet propaganda is solely based on faking of facts and blackmail, and in some instances it is so childish and devoid of logic and wisdom that it arouses the astonishment of any listener.

This religious and political figure said: We know that even the Qotbzadehs, the Yazdis, the Amir Entezams, the Bazargans, the Sadrs and the Bani-Sadrs, who exerted great efforts and used various tools to save the great Satan, did not act so impudently.

Continuing his remarks, this political and religious figure said: Any policy, be it domestic, foreign, economic, cultural, social and so forth that is based on malice, prejudice and fanaticism is a policy that is anti-Islamic, antinational and detrimental, and it should be avoided forever. Regardless of what incredible lies those who desire the return of aggressive America have so far uttered and will utter against our next-door neighbor, no one, even as an example, can show any instance that indicates lack of backing and support by the Soviet Union for our nation's glorious revolution and the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran. On the contrary, numerous documents and evidence are proof of the unselfish support of the Soviet Union for the revolution and its gains.

Concluding his remarks, this political and religious figure said: Above all, we are Muslims, and more important we are followers of true Islam and the Islam of Khomeyni. True Islam rejects enmity toward a friend and considers it as the greatest injustice. He said: Any revolutionary Muslim follower of the imam's path is dutybound to defend his and the homeland's independence and freedom. As struggle against the enemies and the opponents of Iran's independence and freedom is the sacred duty of every Iranian patriot, so too friendship with the true friends and the real backers of the revolution and Iran's independence, and avoidance of any hostile act devoid of fairness toward our friends is also among one of his religious and humanitarian duties.

FREE VOICE OF IRAN URGES ANTICOMMUNIST STRUGGLE

NC041729 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Compatriots: The trips by various delegations of the "Islamic" regime of the Islamic Republic to communist countries [words indistinct] and the propaganda commotion started in Iran by Khomeyni's regime on these trips show that a new phase in the infiltration of the forces of the USSR into Iran has started and that this can be described as the final phase in the establishment of the Kremlin's agents and the implementation of the Kremlin's plans toward Iran's full affiliation with the communist bloc.

So far, Soviet activities in Iran have been as follows: assistance in the overthrow of the former regime; assistance to the illegal revolutionary regime in massacring (?officials) of the former regime; the expansion of the influence of the Tudeh Party and of members of other Iranian, Afghan, Lebanese and other Marxist organizations in the country; the implementation of plans toward the creation of a rift between Iran and countries of the Free World; the placing of Iran in political, economic and social isolation; the prevention of the infiltration of moderate people supporting relations with the West in the ruling (?cadre); [words indistinct] of the country's economy; [words indistinct] and policy on the Eastern bloc through the sale of foodstuff, [word indistinct], industrial products and other essential commodities; the (?coordinating) of the policies of the clerical regime with puppet regimes like the ones in Syria, Libya, South Yemen and Cuba; (?controlling) all the mass media and propaganda network; the creation of a situation similar to that in communist countries [words indistinct]; the creation of a spy and security network similar to that in countries of the Eastern bloc; preventing the people from traveling abroad; confiscating the people's property and the [words indistinct] of housing, trade and [word indistinct].

In this way, all the elements necessary for the establishment of a 100-percent-Soviet-affiliated regime in Iran after either the death or assassination of Khomeyni have been prepared. At present, if Khomeyni is removed from power, the problem of turning over the government to a government that will be a Kremlin puppet can be made without major alterations or serious difficulties in the country, since all (?hirelings) have been established in the important decisionmaking and executive positions and the necessary (?conditions) for the management of the country's affairs and the crushing of any type of resistance have been prepared.

The (?final) phase in the intensification of Soviet influence in Iran is a difficult phase full of bitter truths for the Iranian people about life behind the iron curtain. (?It is for this reason that) recently, with the visits paid by various delegations sent by the illegal regime to communist countries, the propaganda commotion (?by the Islamic Republic's news and information service) is aimed at presenting (?distorted) information on the way of life [words indistinct] of the people in these countries and to (?feign) that the people's freedom, welfare and happiness in these countries have been fully established and that the condition of life (?in the said) countries is far better than that in Iran today. (?They want to tell the people that they should envy the privileges enjoyed by the people of countries like Cuba and North Korea and that the national wish of the calamity-stricken and deprived people of Iran should be the establishment of a regime and conditions similar to those prevailings in these countries.)

Unfortunately, in confronting the rapid expansion of the Soviet Union's direct and indirect influence in Iran, national combatants and opponents of the Islamic Republic do not show that they have understood the critical condition faced by our country well and continue to busy themselves with their (?naive) propaganda against a number of unimportant political figures and a number of selfish leaders. Also, even though it seems that the Western world and the free countries of the world have realized the danger of Soviet infiltration and of the rapid expansion of communism in the world, it does not seem that under the present conditions prevailing in the Free World the necessary determination is being shown and the necessary decision is being taken to prevent this infiltration and expansion.

Under such conditions, compatriots, it is the duty of national combatants and of all Iranian patriots to increase, as soon as possible, the anticommunist and anti-Soviet (?struggles) of their forces and to (?purge) their ranks of suspicious leftist elements [words indistinct]. (?Under such conditions) the Iranians should, as soon as possible, (?join the ranks) of the anticommunist forces of the Free World and actively participate in the anticommunist struggle in the world and against Khomeyni's regime (?in Iran).

BRIEFS

WHEAT DELIVERIES -- The Public Relations Office of the Commerce Ministry has announced that as of 2 October, 827,173 tons of wheat were delivered to the country's silos, an increase of 94 percent compared to the same period last year. The Public Relations Office reports that the purchase of wheat is continuing. [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Nov 81 LD]